



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

February 13, 2001

S. 248

An act to amend the Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001, to adjust a condition on the payment of arrearages to the United Nations that sets the maximum share of any United Nations peacekeeping operation's budget that may be assessed of any country

As passed by the Senate on February 7, 2001

S. 248 would amend the Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001 (Public Law 106-113) and the 1999 omnibus appropriations act (Public Law 105-277), to permit the release of arrearage payments to the United Nations. In 1999, \$475 million was appropriated for arrearage payments in Public Law 105-277 and an additional \$107 million was provided in 2000 in Public Law 106-113. Under current law, however, those funds cannot be disbursed until certain conditions have been met. One of those conditions—which has not been met and cannot be waived—is that the United Nations lower the United States' assessment rate for peacekeeping activities from 31 percent to 25 percent. S. 248 would raise that assessment rate to 28.15 percent; a rate to which the United Nations has agreed. CBO estimates that under S. 248, the State Department would release \$582 million in 2001. Because the act would increase outlays, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply.

S. 248 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is Sunita D'Monte. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.